THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

BENGALURU • MONDAY • JANUARY 19, 2026 • ₹9.00 • PAGES 18 • LATE CITY EDITION

CHENNAI ▪ MADURAI ▪ VIJAYAWADA ▪ BENGALURU ▪ KOCHI ▪ HYDERABAD ▪ VISAKHAPATNAM ▪ COIMBATORE ▪ KOZHIKODE ▪ THIRUVANANTHAPURAM ▪ BELAGAVI ▪ BHUBANESWAR ▪ SHIVAMOGGA ▪ MANGALURU ▪ TIRUPATI ▪ TIRUCHY ▪ TIRUNELVELI ▪ SAMBALPUR ▪ HUBBALLI ▪ DHARMAPURI ▪ KOTTAYAM ▪ KANNUR ▪ VILLUPURAM ▪ KOLLAM ▪ TADEPALLIGUDEM ▪ NAGAPATTINAM ▪ THRISSUR ▪ KALABURAGI

CIC: Advocates can't use RTI Act to seek details for clients' cases

The Central Information Commission (CIC) has ruled that advocates cannot use the Right to Information (RTI) Act to seek details regarding cases they are handling for clients. Quoting a Madras High Court order, the CIC underlined that "a practising advocate cannot seek information relating to the cases instituted by him on behalf of his client".

EU pushback against tariff threat over Greenland

AGENCIES

EUROPEAN leaders on Sunday slammed US President Donald Trump's threat of tariffs over their opposition to his designs on Greenland, warning transatlantic ties were at risk.

Several European countries — including Denmark, of which Greenland is an autonomous territory — emphasised they "stand united" against Trump's vow on Saturday to hit them with tariffs of up to 25 percent unless Greenland is ceded to the United States. "Tariff threats undermine transatlantic relations and risk a dangerous downward spiral," Britain, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Norway and Sweden warned in a joint statement Sunday.

The European Union, which clinched a deal with Washington in July for most EU exports to face a 15-percent US levy, has called an extraordinary meeting of its ambassadors in Brussels on Sunday.

France's President Emmanuel Macron will ask the EU to activate a never-before-used "anti-coercion instrument" against the United States if Trump makes good on his tariff threat, Macron's aides said.

The bloc's weapon, dubbed its trade "bazooka", allows curbing imports of goods and services into the EU, a market of 27 countries with a combined population of 450 million.

Red Cross personnel walk amid the ruins in Jabalia, Gaza Strip on Saturday | AP

Trump invites Modi to join Gaza 'Board of Peace'

JAYANTH JACOB @ New Delhi

US President Donald Trump has invited Prime Minister Narendra Modi to join a proposed "Board of Peace" for Gaza, in a significant outreach as Washington seeks to shape the post-war governance and reconstruction of the besieged enclave.

The invitation letter was sent on January 16.

"It is my Great Honor to invite you, as Prime Minister of the Republic of India, to join me in a critically Historic and Magnificent effort to solidify Peace in the Middle East and, at the same time, to embark on a bold new approach to resolving Global Conflict!" the letter from the US president said.

Pakistan's Foreign Office had earlier said Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif had also been invited to be part of the initiative.

Several global leaders have been invited to be part of the board, including Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, Egyptian President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi, European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen, and the leaders of France, Germany, Australia and Canada.

More details about the proposed body surfaced after letters sent by Trump to Argentine President Javier Milei and Paraguayan President Santiago Peña were posted by the two leaders on social media. In his letter to Milei, Trump said the board would work to "solidify peace in the Middle East" and pursue a "bold new approach to resolving global conflict."

A draft charter circulated by the Trump administration to around 60 countries reportedly requires member states to contribute $1 billion in cash for memberships extending beyond three years.

Trump has named former British PM Tony Blair as a founding executive member of the board, alongside Jared Kushner, US Secretary of State Marco Rubio, Middle East envoy Steve Witkoff and World Bank Group President Ajay Banga.

MODI TARGETS CONG, TMC IN POLL PITCH

Accuses the two parties of endangering national security for the sake of vote-bank politics

PRASANTA MAZUMDAR & SUBHENDU MAITI @ Guwahati / Kolkata

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday mounted a sharp political attack on the Congress and Trinamool Congress (TMC), accusing the two parties of endangering national security by protecting infiltrators for vote-bank politics.

After laying the foundation stone for the ₹6,957 crore Kaziranga Elevated Corridor, and virtually flagging off two Amrit Bharat trains from Kaliabor in election-bound Assam's Nagaon district, Modi accused the Congress of allowing infiltrators in exchange for votes during its years in power in the north-eastern state.

Taking potshots at the Congress for its poor show in the recent Bihar Assembly election and Maharashtra local body polls, Modi said the grand old party has lost the trust of the nation and the BJP has become the first choice of people.

"In the recent Bihar elections, even after 20 years, people gave a record number of votes to the BJP, helping it win a record number of seats. Mumbai, for the first time, gave a record mandate to the BJP. In most cities of Maharashtra, people gave the BJP an opportunity to serve them," he said.

PM Narendra Modi addresses a gathering in Nagaon, Assam, on Sunday | PTI

Modi also pointed to the BJP's electoral breakthrough in Kerala, where the party secured the mayor's post in Thiruvananthapuram for the first time. According to Modi, the results across states reflected a consistent national trend.

"The voters today want good governance and development. That is why, they like the BJP," he said, adding that the results show the Congress is being repeatedly rejected by voters.

Later in the day, addressing a rally at West Bengal's Singur, Modi accused the TMC government of sitting idle on the Centre's request to acquire land for fencing the Bangladesh border. He said the party is "playing with the country's security" by giving support to infiltrators from Bangladesh. "The state government is giving safety and security to infiltrators and that's why they vote for TMC," the PM said.

EXPRESS READ

CM's convoy gets caught in Suttur Jatra traffic snarl

Mysuru: Chief Minister Siddaramaiah was briefly caught in a traffic jam while returning from the Suttur Jatra Mahotsava near Mysuru on Sunday. Heavy vehicular movement and a large gathering of devotees returning after the mega religious event at Suttur Sri Kshetra resulted in traffic jams on the route. The police struggled to clear the traffic and ensure smooth passage for the CM's convoy, which was stuck for several minutes | P4

Kohli ton in vain as India suffer historic loss

Indore: Virat Kohli smashes his 85th international ton, but New Zealand had the last laugh as they beat India by 41 runs to win their first ODI series in the country. Less than 18 months ago, Black Caps handed India a 3-0 hammering in red-ball cricket and now have followed it up with a sensational ODI series win weeks before the T20 World Cup | P13

Iran protests death toll over 5,000

Dubai: At least 5,000 people have been killed in protests in Iran, including about 500 security personnel, Reuters reported citing an unnamed Iranian official on Sunday. The consolidated death toll was based on verified figures, with the official accusing "terrorists and armed rioters" of killing "innocent Iranians" | P11

Nod given to KSCA conditional, says Dr G

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

HOME Minister **G Parameshwara** told reporters here on Sunday that the state government has given permission to host matches at the M Chinnaswamy Stadium, subject to certain conditions.

He said the Justice D'Cunha Commission submitted its recommendations on the safety measures to be implemented, and they were also sent to the Karnataka State Cricket Association (KSCA). A committee was constituted to oversee the safety measures implemented and the matter was discussed in the Cabinet.

The committee observed that the recommendations had been complied with. Before submitting its report to the Cabinet, KSCA had requested permission to host matches, assuring the government that it would fulfil all the recommendations.

During the Cabinet meeting, it was discussed that both long-term and short-term measures should be implemented. P7

Government of Karnataka

In Joint Collaboration of District Administration, Belagavi & Backward Classes Welfare Department and Krantiveera Sangolli Rayanna Kshetra Development Authority

Dedication of "Krantiveera Sangolli Rayanna Museum (Veerabhoomi)" and

Statue of Krantiveera Sangolli Rayanna

Near the lake of Samadhi and Bhoomi Puja Programme of various works

Date: 19th January, Monday. Time: 12.00 Noon.

Venue: Nandagad Rural Education Society Ground, Nandagad, Khanapur Taluk

▪ **Consrtuction of Sainik School** in the name of Sangolli Rayanna on an area of 100 Acres in Sangolli Village ▪ **Construction of Museum** at the place of the Banyan Tree in Nandagad where Sangolli Rayanna was hanged **(Veerabhoomi)** ▪ **Development of lake** near the Samadhi of Sangolli Rayanna in Nandagad ▪ **Construction of Shouryabhoomi** in Sangolli Village which will depict the history of Rayanna's childhood up to his hanging

Divine Presence

Srimad Jagadguru Sri Revanasiddeshwara Simhasanadhishwara

Paramapoojya Jagadguru Sri Sri Sri Dr. Niranjanandapuri Mahaswamigalu

Kaginele Mahasamsthana, Kanaka Gurupeeta, Sri Kshetra Kaginele

Inauguration by

Sri Siddaramaiah

Hon'ble Chief Minister and Chairman, Krantiveera Sangolli Rayanna Kshetra Development Authority

Chief Guests

Sri D.K. Shivakumar
Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister and Minister for Water Resources

Sri Satish L. Jarkiholi
Hon'ble Minister for Public Works and Belagavi District in-Charge Minister

Smt. Lakshmi R. Hebbalkar
Hon'ble Minister for Women and Child Development & Differently Abled and Senior Citizens Empowerment

Sri Tangadagi Shivaraj Sangappa
Hon'ble Minister for Backward Classes Welfare & Kannada and Culture

Sri Byrathi S. Suresh
Hon'ble Minister for Urban Development

Presided by

Sri Vithal Somanna Halagekar
Hon'ble MLA, Khanapur Assembly Constituency

Sri Tangadagi Shivaraj Sangappa, Hon'ble Minister for Backward Classes Welfare & Kannada and Culture & Sri H.M. Revanna, Hon'ble Chairman, Karnataka State Guarantee Schemes Implementation Authority and former Minister on a visit to the Museum

Special Invitees

Sri H.M. Revanna
Hon'ble Chairman, Karnataka State Guarantee Schemes Implementation Authority and former Minister

Sri Ashok M. Pattan
Hon'ble Government Chief Whip, Legislative Assembly

Sri Prakash B Hukkeri
Hon'ble Special Representative of GoK, New Delhi

Sri Bharamagowda A. Kage
Hon'ble Chairman, North Western Karnataka Road Transport Corporation Limited

Sri Mahantesh Shivanand Koujalagi
Hon'ble Chairman, Karnataka State Financial Corporation

Hon'ble MPs of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha, Hon'ble MLAs & MLCs, Hon'ble Chairman of Belagavi Urban Development Authority, Hon'ble Chairpersons of various Boards and Corporations, Hon'ble Presidents of Nandagad and Kasaba Nadagad Gram Panchayaths and other dignitaries will participate in the programme as Special Invitees.

As is enshrined in our Constitution to value and preserve the rich heritage of our composite culture is the fundamental duty of every citizen of the country.

All are cordially invited

karnataka information